



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

July 9, 2014

Congressman Michael Michaud
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-1902

Dear Congressman Michaud:

I am writing to you in your capacity as a decade-long member of the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to express frustration at you and your Committee's inability to work with the Obama Administration to authorize transportation funding.

The State of Maine was recently notified that, due to the lack of a long-term deal providing transportation infrastructure funding to states, new cash management procedures will take effect on August 1 if Washington cannot resolve pending funding shortfalls in the federal Highway Trust Fund. These changes mean that federal highway reimbursements for Maine will be reduced by approximately 70 percent this August. **This is a cut of 27 to 29 million dollars for transportation project reimbursement.** Because requests for reimbursements peak in the summer due to Maine's short construction season, this inaction will disproportionately harm Maine.

Moreover, the lack of a reauthorization of MAP-21 – a key responsibility of the Committee you have sat on since 2003 – harms Maine's transportation needs in a variety of ways. My Administration has adopted long-term planning to meet transportation needs. Yet we cannot plan into the future if you cannot work together with your Committee and the Obama Administration to provide States with a stable formula of how much funding Maine will receive.

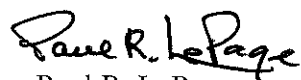
My Administration is working hard to deal with these new problems. Fortunately, we have dramatically reformed how we fund transportation needs – making sure job creating projects are funded and stretching the transportation dollar to ensure citizens receive the maximum bang for their buck. We are also adopting methods to address the cash flow short fall. If necessary, I will seek additional bonding to offset federal shortfalls.



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Please do your job and give us a reliable roadmap by fixing the trust fund and passing a reauthorization of MAP-21. If you choose to continue to do nothing – maybe you should at least let the States just collect taxes currently going to Washington. My Administration knows how to manage money and it knows how to get it done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul R. LePage". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Paul R. LePage

Governor, State of Maine

CC: Senator Susan Collins
Senator Angus King
Congresswoman Chellie Pingree